

"A Woman Intervenes."
By Robert Barr.
The Brightest, Breeziest Story
of the Week---An American
and an English Girl's
Combat.

"Please sit down, Lady Willow, and don't be offended. Let us talk it over in an amicable manner, even if we come to no arrangement. I think a cock an exceedingly important person, and I assure you I would treat one in the most deferential

"Manner, while with you, on the other hand, I talk in an open and frank way, as between friend and friend. I take it that you and I are somewhat similarly situated. We are neither rich nor poor, and we have each of us to earn the money we need in our own way. It would be dishonest if I pretended to you that I was wealthy, and then couldn't pay what you expected after you had done all your good work for me. I would be well, if you have any one else to chaperon who can afford to pay more than I can, you shouldn't bother about me at all, but secure a richer client."

"Lady Willow remembered me," said the good doctor, as his clients abounded, and she snatched their resentment and ad-

"That's right," said Jennie, "we'll have a nice quiet talk, whatever comes of it. Now, if you like, I could write a love letter to you, and send it in the Sunday Argus, and then all rich girls who come over here would go direct to you."

"Oh, dear! Oh, dear!" cried Lady Willow, evidently inexpressibly shocked at the idea. "You would surely never do so cruel a thing! My friends knew I chaperoned young ladies and took money for it I would never be allowed to enter their doors again."

"'Ah, I didn't think of that.' It wouldn't do. What a curious thing it is that those who are so ready to write up in print, while those who don't want to have anything said about them are the people the reporters are always after.'"
"Do you write for the papers, then?"
"For one of them."
"How dreadful!" said Lady Willow, rising again, with an air of finality about her movement. It was evident that any dealings with this American girl were out of the question.

"Do sit down again, Lady Willow. We will take it that I am hopelessly ineligible, and so say no more about it, but I do want to hear what you have to say for yourself."

"But you will write something."

"I shall not write a word about you or about anything you tell me. You see, your profession is as strange to me as mine is to you."

"My profession? I have none."

"Well, whatever you call it, I mean the way in which you make your money."

Lady Willow sighed and the tears came into her eyes.

In spite of the trick she had played on

Miss Brewster at once flew to her stateroom. The telegram about the mine was not before her, but with that were to pay for a piece of the table. She resolved to try to make of delay by having the message read to her. She was not long in being quick as she could, a brief and very graphic account of the disaster which had overtaken the Corcoran. Miss Brewster had no time to tug it down. Pictureque and dramatic description was what she desired. Her heart was very true, but she was not so rapid, and she looked up every now and then, through her stateroom window, to see danger signs on the coast. The Irish coast, make the attempt to reach

[illegible]

"I have a shirt and took a step backward. Standing with her back to me, she said, 'What are you doing?' When she had entered the stairroom Miss Brewster did not know, but her heart beat wildly as she saw the girl standing silently, waiting as if she had been waiting for me."

"What are you doing here?" she demanded.

"I am here," said Miss Longworth, "because I wish to talk with you."

"Stand aside; I have no time to talk to you just now, I told you I don't want to see you," said Miss Brewster, "I tell you."

"I shall not stand aside."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean that I will not stand aside."

"Oh, then I will ring the bell and have you thrust out of here for your impudence."

"You shall not ring the bell," said the woman calmly, putting her hand over the white china plaque that held in its centre the black electric button.

"Do you mean to tell me that you intend to keep me from leaving my own state-room?"

"I mean to tell you exactly that."

"Do you know that you can be imprisoned for attempting such a thing?"

"I don't care."

"Stand aside, you vixen, or I will strike you!"

"'Do it.'"
"For a moment the two girls stood there like one fished and excited, the other apparently calm, with her back against the door and her hand on the electric button. A glance showed that the window showed Miss Brewster sitting over the back of the boat and that they were steadily lowering away."

"'Let me pass, you—you wretch!'"

"'All in good time,' replied Edith Longworth, whose gaze was also bent upon the

"Jennie Brewster saw, at once that, if it had come to a close hand encounter, she would have no chance whatever against the physical girl, who was in every way her physical superior. She had her envelope in one hand and the hold in the other. She thrust both of them in her pocket, which, after some fumbling, she found. Then she raised her voice in one of the loudest screams which Edith Lowry had ever heard. As if in answer to the ear-piercing sound, a door opened from the steamer a loud and hurrying cheer. Both glanced up to see

where the boat was, but it was not in sight. Several ropes were dangling down past the porthole. Miss Brewster saw the ropes and the screw which held the round window close.

"Edith Longworth looked at her without making any attempt to prevent the unfastening of the window."

"Jennie Brewster flung open the heavy brass circle which held the thick green glass, and called out at the top of her voice, crying, 'Help! Murder!'"

The other did not move from her position. In the silence that followed the steady

Longworth raised herself on tiptoe and looked out of the open window. On the crest of the wave, 500 yards away from the vessel, she saw the boat for a moment appear, showing the wharfed end of a dripping oar; then it vanished down the other side of the wave into the trough of the sea. "Now, Miss Brewster," she said, "you are at liberty to go."

A CLEVER AMERICAN GIRL.

Miss Alice Brewster arrived in London


she set to work to amuse herself and make copy with the help of a titled chamberlain. Her first interview with Lady Willow is entertaining:

"Lady Willow thought all American girls were born daughters of millionaires, in accordance with some unexplained Western law of nature. She had imagined that their object was in desiring to enter London society was to purchase for themselves a more or less expensive scion of the aristocracy. She was, therefore, inclined to

amuse and interest all who have ever had the house-owning fever. Unfortunately it was not known that Mr. and Mrs. Baker were on moving in. But all of the previous experiences, which were probably not peculiar to the Bakers, but must be common to all persons in like circumstances—many of these experiences are related in such a way as to be truthful, and yet highly entertaining. Mr. Field's humor is valuable because it is not extravagant and is not made to depend on the least of the facts of the story. It is of the refined sort that appeals to an educated intelligence.

"It is not my custom to chaffer about terms," said Lady Willow with much dignity.

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Everybody is invited to participate in a contest to ascertain the greatest number of words which can be made from the letters contained in the following sentence:

"USE TOPPAN'S CLEARENE FOR WASHING."

SPECIAL OFFER UNTIL MAY 20, 1896.
We will give the **FIRST PREMIUM** to the person sending us before May 20, 1896, the largest list of English words made from the letters contained in the sentence:

USE TOPPAN'S CLEARENE FOR WASHING.
We will give the **SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH** and **SEVENTH PREMIUMS**, respectively, to the persons sending us before May 20, 1896, the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh largest lists of English words made from the letters contained in the sentence:

The following are the Conditions of the Contest:

FIRST—In making up words, no letter can be used in a single word more times than it appears in the sentence: "Use Toppan's Clearene for Washing."

SECOND—Geographical and proper names will be rejected, and no word shall be counted

THIRD—Letters on which there is postage due will not be accepted from the mails.

FOURTH—All words, as well as the name and full address of each contestant, must be distinctly written.

FIFTH—EACH LIST MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LABEL CUT FROM THE FRONT OF A PACKAGE OF "CLEARENE," AS DESCRIBED BELOW.

SIXTH—Lists will be rejected which are accompanied by labels cut from the front of packages marked "FREE SAMPLE."

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Contestants will please mail the envelopes containing their lists

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